From: <u>Estill, Charles</u>

To: Benton Public Comment

Cc: <u>Debora Estill</u>

Subject: Coffin Butte Expansion

Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 8:55:31 AM

Attachments: <u>Landfill.pdf</u>

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Please find the attached testimony

Debora Estill

#9000 Trillium Lane

Corvallis, OR 97330

Re:: LU-24-027

To whom it may concern:

My name is Debi Estill. My husband and I reside at 39000 Trillium Lane, Corvallis, OR, two miles southwest of the Coffin Butte Landfill, where we have lived for 12 years. I appreciate you taking time to listen to my gradiences regarding the proposed landfill expansion.

I (Debi) was born and raised in Corvallis and have lived her for most of my 65 years. Growing up in southwest Corvallis, I have fond childhood memories of going to the landfill with my father; it was an adventure! However, the landfill was very different in those days. It was, of course, much smaller, and absent was the stench since the smaller size was more manageable. Today, the landfill loom large on the horizon, has totally disfigures the natural beauty of the Coffin Butte/Adair area, and emits a horrific stench on most days and an intolerable stench on others. The scene and stench are especially bad when compounded by the dust raised by the endless flow of big trucks entering and exiting the landfill, that I see as I drive east on Tampico Road to attend to my daily responsibilities away from home.

Today, in stark contrast to my past idyllic memories of a pristine western Oregon, the roads leading to the landfill are now littered with trash and garbage which has blown out of trucks on their way to empty their load at the landfill. It is unclear whose responsibility it is to pick up this unsightly debris but, clearly, Republic Services is not doing it and the debris is sporadically removed by local volunteers. Feeling powerless, and at a loss as to what to do to mitigate this situation. So, in an effort born of desperation, I had yard signs made with the words DON'T TRASH CORVALLIS, in bold letters with some more subtle subtitles, and distributed to like-minded neighbors to display on their property and make their objections to landfill expansion available for passersby to see. The public reaction has been uniformly positive.

It is my contention that both surface streams and ponds and underground water in the area surrounding the landfill, and perhaps even miles away, extending all the way to the Willamette River as being contaminated with toxic chemicals and" forever compounds" from the landfill leachate. This poses a serious health threat to all living creatures in the area as well as severely reducing the recreation opportunities on our waterways due to fear of negative health consequences resulting from exposure to the leachate.

I am well aware that Benton County residents and businesses need a place to dispose of refuse. In the past, the Coffin Butte was managed very well and adequately met the county needs. But I am compelled to ask why Benton County should be the dumping ground for areas tens and more miles away. These other counties and municipalities should be responsible to find their own solution for refuse disposal rather that make Benton County their dumping ground. Frankly, I find this totally irresponsible and disgusting.

In summary, I totally reject an oppose the expansion of the "new" landfill. There is a long history of failure to meet air quality and other EPA mandated water regulations and I do not expect compliance to improve and likely will become even worse. Republic Services in a billion-dollar industry and readily absorbs and fines imposed and keeps on polluting our beloved environment. I stand united with my neighbors and vehemently oppose the landfill expansion and we will do all in our power to see that the area we call home is not further spoiled by the greed Republic Services is known for. It is time for Republic Services to consider more than their bottom line and do the right thing and be in compliance with the BCC 55.215 Benton County Comprehensive Compliance Plans for the sake of our county and state and future generation of Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Debi E. Estill